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Subject: Fazio water, Folsom, and perchlorate

This letter was sent to the Sacramento Bee, the Sacramento News and Review, the Rancho Cordova Grapevine-Independent, and the Folsom Telegraph. Let's see if anybody dares print it.

Dear Editor,

PERCHLORATE-GATE: IS THERE A DARK SIDE TO POLITICS IN FOLSOM?

I read in the June 3rd edition of the Folsom Telegraph the following passage written by Folsom Mayor Steve Miklos:

We are also seeking to require the Bureau of Reclamation to comply with a bill that grants Folsom an additional 7000 acre feet of water a year from Folsom Lake. This bill, authored by Congressman Vic Fazio, was passed several years ago, but the water has never been released. Because of our meetings with our Washington representatives in March, Congressman Fazio with Congressmen John Doolittle, Bob Matsui, and Richard Pombo jointly signed a strong letter to the Bureau of Reclamation and Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt demanding that we get our water.

Now the question that immediately comes to mind to me, as a resident of Rancho Cordova, is once Folsom gets its Fazio water, does my community then get back the 5000 acre feet of Lake Natoma water that my water company loaned to the City of Folsom? My understanding is that the Southern California Water Company temporarily sold this water to Folsom so that it could develop new housing that eventually would be supplied by the Fazio water. In 1970 Southern California Water acquired 10,000 acre feet of Lake Natoma surface water rights as an insurance policy against their Rancho Cordova wells being contaminated by industrial activity from Aerojet. Now 28 years later, that water-supply life saver is not available to Rancho Cordova because it is being used to supply homes in Gold River and Folsom.

Is there is anything sinister about all of this water wheeling-dealing? The answer to that question seems to depend on whether anybody in Rancho Cordova was actually hurt by the stuff in their water. A couple of lawsuits have been filed claiming that people have been injured by water contamination, and as a member of the Aerojet Health Assessment Site Team I can testify to the fact that there are several anecdotal reports of unusual maladies in Rancho Cordova that warrant further investigation. I am also certain that it will take years worth of research to resolve the

uncertainties involving the toxicity of perchlorate and the other unregulated chemicals likely to be in Rancho Cordova's water supply. In the meantime, if the good citizens of Folsom wish to insure that they are not unwitting co-conspirators in a major land-water-toxics scandal, I suggest they ask City Manager Mike Frost to clarify his role in the consent decree negotiated by the Deukmejian administration that allowed perchlorate and other chemicals to infiltrate Rancho Cordova's water supply.

Sincerely,